

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A ceramic honeycomb filter having porous cell walls comprising a first and a second ceramic honeycomb structure, each having large numbers of flow paths partitioned by cell walls, which are bonded in the direction of said flow paths, predetermined flow paths being sealed by plugs, plugs formed at the downstream end of said first ceramic honeycomb structure positioned on an upstream side of an exhaust gas path being bonded to at least part of plugs formed at the upstream end of said second honeycomb structure adjacent to said end of this-said first honeycomb structure, and a cell wall thickness and a cell wall pitch of said first honeycomb structure being same with those of said second honeycomb structure, respectively.

2. (currently amended): The ceramic honeycomb filter according to claim 1, wherein the first ceramic honeycomb structure with predetermined flow paths sealed by plugs at one end is bonded to the second ceramic honeycomb structure with predetermined flow paths sealed by plugs at both ends, such that said first ceramic honeycomb structure is on an upstream side of said second honeycomb structure.

3. (previously presented): The ceramic honeycomb filter according to claim 1, wherein a ratio A/B of the length A of the plugs at one end of one honeycomb structure to the length B of the plugs at one end of the other honeycomb structure is 1/9-9/1 in the bonded plugs.

4. (previously presented): The ceramic honeycomb filter according to claim 1, wherein the first and second ceramic honeycomb structures are provided with an integral outer wall.

5. (previously presented): The ceramic honeycomb filter according to claim 1, wherein a catalyst is supported by said cell walls and/or at least part of said plugs.

6. (currently amended): A method for producing a ceramic honeycomb filter with predetermined flow paths sealed by plugs, wherein in the bonding of a first and second ceramic honeycomb structures-structure each having large numbers of flow paths partitioned by cell walls in the direction of said flow paths, plugs formed at ~~the upstream~~ a downstream end of said first ceramic honeycomb structure positioned on an upstream side of an exhaust gas path are bonded to at least part of plugs formed at an ~~the~~ upstream end of said second honeycomb structure adjacent to this ~~said~~ first honeycomb structure.

7. (currently amended): The method for producing a ceramic honeycomb filter according to claim 6, comprising cutting one monolithic ceramic honeycomb structure substantially perpendicularly to said flow paths to form a first and second ceramic honeycomb structures, said first and second ceramic honeycomb structures-structure being abutted to each

other at cut ends, so that they are bonded to each other via plugs formed at the cuteute ends in the direction of the flow paths.

8. (previously presented): The method for producing a ceramic honeycomb filter according to claim 6, wherein at least part of plugs formed at the upstream end of said second ceramic honeycomb structure have protruding portions.